

XM Satellite Radio has been a welcome alternative to the regular morning traffic report on local FM stations. Particularly, XM seems to be more thorough in its report--and you don't have to wait 5-10 minutes for the next report (as compared to other morning FM stations). But, there's more to XM's instant traffic and weather--it is available 24hrs each day. So, if I want a traffic report in the afternoon or late evening--I can get it. Same with weather--and no need to wait and listen for the report on the local station.

What comes to mind is the 2005 Acura RL that apparently will be offering real-time traffic reports through its navigation system. How, in concept, will this 'local programming' differ from what XM provides? I don't see the difference--and any support of petition 04-160 will only serve to stifle select competitors at the consumer's expense.

I urge you to reject the NAB's petition 04-160 and to support XM's ability to provide this much appreciated alternative programming.